

URBAN DISTRICT OF RHYMNEY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

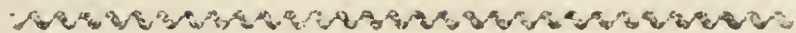
Sanitary Inspector

FOR

The Year 1951

PROLE & SON, EBBW VALE

Rhymney Urban District Council.



With the compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health.



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Rhymney

Urban District Council



Chairman (1951)	Councillor J. J. WILLIAMS, J.P.
Vice-Chairman (1951)	.....	Councillor DAVID THOMAS
Clerk and Accountant to the Council	.....	R. T. LEWIS, Esq., A.C.I.S.

MEMBERS :

Upper Ward

Councillor John Jones
Councillor Gomer Jones
Councillor P. E. Jones
Councillor R. I. Doyle

Middle Ward

Councillor W. T. Powell
Councillor Norman Gilbert
Councillor D. Thomas

Lower Ward

Councillor J. J. Williams, J.P.
Councillor D. A. Moseley
Councillor W. H. Barter

Abertysswg Ward

Alderman W. J. Greene, J.P.
Councillor Roger Williams
Councillor R. C. Scurlock

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health—Part time :

Dr. I. L. R. EVANS, M.B.E., B.SC., M.B., B.CH.

Sanitary Inspector, etc.—Whole time :

G. R. DAVIES, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, The Royal Sanitary Inst.
Certified Sanitary Inspector, The Royal Institute.

*To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the
Rhymney Urban District Council.*

* * *

Mr. Chairman and Members,

We beg to submit the Annual Report on the vital statistics and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1951. This has been prepared on the lines of that for 1950, as indicated in Circular 42/51 (Wales), dated 10th December, 1951, issued by the Welsh Board of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The District is situated at the top of the Rhymney Valley, in the north west corner of Monmouthshire, a small portion of the upper end being in the southern extremity of the County of Breconshire. On the west it is separated from Glamorgan and the Urban District of Gellygaer by the River Rhymney; on the east by the Tysswg Brook and the Urban District of Tredegar; on the north by Breconshire, and on the south by the Urban District of Bedwellty. It covers an area of 2,648 acres. For all administrative purposes, the whole area is included in the County of Monmouthshire.

Coalmining is the chief industry, and many of the workmen are employed in the collieries situated outside the Urban area. There are no pit-head baths for the workmen at any colliery in this district.

The need for alternative light employment is again strongly stressed, and especially so in order to provide the means of a livelihood for those men who have had to give up Colliery work through industrial disease or injury. Over the years the Council have from time to time stressed their concern over this matter.

Clothing Factory. Production commenced towards the end of 1948. As usual in this type of factory, it is female labour that is chiefly employed.

Extensions to the factory took place during 1950, and as a result the number of employees have increased.

Rhymney Engineering Works. Although the only means of road transport to and from this factory is through our district, it is actually situated in the Urban District of Gellygaer.

Population at Census, 1921	.....	.....	11,690
Population at Census, 1931	.....	.....	10,506
Population at Census, 1951	.....	.....	9,134

**Estimated Resident Population supplied Yearly by the Registrar General
over the last twenty years.**

1932	.....	.....	10,450	1942	.....	.....	9,233
1933	.....	.....	10,410	1943	.....	.....	9,101
1934	.....	.....	10,280	1944	.....	.....	8,881
1935	.....	.....	10,050	1945	.....	.....	8,762
1936	.....	.....	9,900	1946	.....	.....	8,773
1937	.....	.....	9,576	1947	.....	.....	8,694
1938	.....	.....	9,437	1948	.....	.....	9,058
1939	.....	.....	9,260	1949	.....	.....	9,137
1940	.....	.....	9,625	1950	.....	.....	9,070
1941	.....	.....	9,814	1951	.....	.....	9,049

The Statistics for 1951 are based upon the estimated resident population of 9,049, as supplied by the Registrar General.

Area of the District in Acres	.....	2,647.94
Rateable Value (31st March, 1951)	.....	£29,190
Penny Rate Product (31st March, 1951)	£104 16	5

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Legitimate	129	74	55	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the
Illegitimate	7	4	3	Population
				..... 15.02

Out of the total of 136 births, 75 of the births took place in hospitals, or outside our area.

STILL BIRTHS.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	Rate per 1,000 total live
Legitimate	2	1	1	and still-births
				..... 14.4

The Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Population is 0.22; for England and Wales 0.36; and for Monmouthshire, 0.49.

DEATHS.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Death Rate per 1,000 of the	133	70	63
Population	.....	.....	14.6

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth : Nil.

It is satisfactory to note that out of a total of 136 live and 2 still-births, there were no deaths as a result of childbirth.

	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 total live and Still-births</i>
Other Maternal Causes	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Total	—	—

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Where Born</i>	<i>Where Died</i>
Male	5 dys.	Pul. Obstruction (Mucous Plug	Home	Hospital
Male	17 hrs.	Cerebral Haemorrhage	Hospital	Hospital
Male	2 mins.	Prematurity	Home	Home
Male	2 mins.	Cerebral Haemorrhage	Hospital	Hospital
Male	7 dys.	Atelectasis & Prematurity	Home	Home
Male	4 dys.	Prematurity	Hospital	Hospital
Male	5 mths.	Asphyxia	Home	Home
Male	4 mths.	Infantile Convulsions	Hospital	Home
Female	3 mths.	Dehydration, Gastro En.	Home	Home
Female	5 mths.	Prematurity; Bronc. Pneu.	Home	Home

Death Rate for Infants under one year of age :

All Infants per 1,000 live births 73.5

There were 10 deaths under one year of age.

(All legitimate births)

STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, ETC., 1951

	<i>Death Rate</i> <i>(all causes)</i>	<i>Live Birth</i> <i>Rate per</i> <i>1,000 total</i> <i>Population</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i> <i>under 1 year</i> <i>(Rate per</i> <i>1,000 Live</i> <i>Births)</i>
England and Wales	12.5	15.5	29.6
Monmouthshire	13.38	16.5	43.1
Rhymney	14.6	15.02	73.5
Bedwas & Machen	13.74	16.5	20.95
Blaenavon	12.9	12.7	48.8
Nantyglo & Blaina	15.9	15.7	27.9

The death rate at all ages is 2.1 more than that for England and Wales, and 1.2 more than that for Monmouthshire (County), and the rate for death under one year of age is 43.9 more than the rate for England and Wales, and 30.4 more than the rate for the County. The birth-rate is 0.48 below that for England and Wales, and 1.48 below that of the County.

As will be noted, the infantile death rate is 6.9 above that for 1950.

For 1950 the Death Rate (all ages) was 12.5, the Birth Rate 19.8, and the Infantile Rate 66.6.

Our infantile mortality rate is very high, and analysis of the causes of death is required to explain it. It will be seen that one infant died from Asphyxia, due to accident. Three infants died from prematurity, the duration of life varying from 2 minutes to 7 days. Two infants died from Cerebral Haemorrhage, the duration of life being 2 minutes and 17 hours respectively. Thus the causes of six of the ten deaths were beyond control and beyond treatment, and if these were eliminated our rate would be entirely satisfactory.

With the exception of the deaths under one year of age, our rates compare fairly favourably with those for England and Wales, and the County.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	.....	.....	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	.....		—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	.....	.....	15
Deaths from Heart Diseases	.....	.....	56
Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality during the year	.....	.....	.....
			None

HOSPITALS. The National Health Service Act, 1946, lays on the Minister of Health the duty of providing hospital and specialist services.

The Minister discharges this duty principally through Regional Hospital Boards, acting as his agents. For the control and management (*i.e.* for the whole business of day to day administration) of groups of hospitals, Hospital Management Committees in turn act as agents of the Regional Boards.

The Rhymney and Sirhowy Valleys Hospital Management Committee is responsible for the control and management of hospitals, chest clinics, etc., in the area.

ADMISSION OF PATIENTS TO HOSPITAL.

GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL CONDITIONS. The family doctor (1) arranges admission of the acute emergency direct with the hospital, and (2) refers the non-urgent case to be seen as an out-patient. If considered necessary, hospitals outside the group can also be used by arrangement, as in the NEW SERVICE, there are no territorial boundaries.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Arrangements for admission are made through the Local Authority Health Department as considered necessary.

MATERNITY. Cases are admitted by direct arrangements between the Ante-Natal Clinic Doctor and the County Infirmary.

TUBERCULOSIS. Reference by the family doctor of patients to the Chest Specialists in attendance at the Chest Clinics for opinion, investigation, or treatment, continues as in the past. Admissions to Sanatoria or Hospital are arranged through the Tuberculosis Division of the Welsh Regional Board on direct recommendation of the Chest Physician.

SPECIALIST SERVICE ON THE HOME. The family doctor seeks a specialist for domicilliary service only if the patient is too ill to attend at the hospital.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. In this area, the Mon. County Council are statutorily responsible for the provision of an adequate service of ambulances and transport for all National Health purposes, including the transport of patients to and from hospital, and inter-hospital transfers.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT. For the purposes of the National Health Service Act, Convalescence can be divided into two classes. Firstly, there is convalescence which is a continuation and an integral part of hospital treatment, *i.e.*, medical and nursing care is essential; this type of convalescence is the responsibility of the Hospital Management Committee.

Secondly, there is convalescence where medical and nursing care is *not* required and where the patient only needs a rest holiday in suitable surroundings; the Hospital Management Committee is not empowered to provide this type of convalescence, but it *may* be provided by the Local Health Authority (Mon. C.C. for this area) under Section 28 of the National Health Act.

SPA TREATMENT. This form of treatment will be provided on prescription by the patient's doctor, supplemented by specialist recommendation. The procedure requires the hospital matron to arrange for out-patient specialist examination on production by the patient of a medical certificate suggesting Spa treatment. Admission is then arranged (via the Hospital Management Committee) by the Regional Hospital Board to Spa Centres, which at the moment are outside the Welsh Region.

SUPPLIES OF DIPHTHERIA ANTI-TOXIN. Hospitals for infectious diseases hold stocks of diphtheria anti-toxin and are prepared to supply it to doctors on demand, for emergency use. As these hospitals are not readily accessible, small stocks are also held (for this area) at the Redwood Memorial Hospital.

SUPPLY OF VACCINES, SERA, ETC. Stocks of vaccine, lymph and diphtheria prophylactic are being held at laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service for issue *free* of charge to the Medical Officer of Health, or to practitioners taking part in Local Health Authorities' arrangements under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act.

Certain other materials of this kind, not readily obtainable at present from trade sources, will also be available through the Public Health Laboratory Service, *e.g.* measles serum, typhus vaccine, rabies vaccine, botulinum antitoxin, anti-anthrax serum and anti-snake venom.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION. The Central Administration Offices of the Hospital Management Committee are based at Caerphilly District Miners' Hospital, St. Martin's Road, Caerphilly.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY. The conditions remain the same as at the end of last year, the supply is ample and of good quality. The Rhymney Urban District Council is a contributory authority to the Rhymney Valley Water Board, with representation thereon. Forty-six houses at Princetown and Rhymney Bridge are supplied by the Tredegar Urban District Council.

Source A. Gathering ground at Blaen Rhymney; this empties into (1) Old Reservoir, 9,000,000 gallons, (2) New Reservoir, 46,000,000 gallons; the property of the Rhymney Valley Water Board.

Source B. From the Taff Fechan Reservoir, the property of the Taff Fechan Supply Board. Capacity, 350,000,000 gallons.

Springs (2 outlying farmhouses, and 11 isolated cottages). On the whole, these have been fairly successful throughout the year.

Reports upon Water Samples, etc.

	<i>Number satisfactory</i>	<i>Number unsatisfactory</i>
1. (a) Bacteriological examination of raw water	Nil.	Nil.
(b) Bacteriological examination of treated water	14	1
(c) Chemical Analyses	Nil.	Nil.
2. (a) Plumbo Solvent Action	None.	
(b) Details of contamination by lead, pre- cautions taken, and number and results of analyses	No Plumbo solvency	
3. (a) Number of houses supplied from public water mains :		
(i) Direct to houses .....	.....	2,467
(ii) By means of stand-pipes .....	.....	30
(b) Approximate population supplied from public water mains :		
(i) Direct to houses .....	.....	8,900
(ii) By means of stand-pipes .....	.....	100
4. Action in respect of any form of con- tamination	No contamination evident.	

Analysis results which have coliform content of one or over, are now defined as unsatisfactory. Adequate chlorination is maintained at all times.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL. With the exception of minor improvement and the clearing of blockages, the sewers have, on the whole, worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The Rhymney Urban District Council is a contributory authority to the Rhymney Valley Sewerage Board, with representatives thereon.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. With the exception of out-lying houses and isolated farmhouses, the whole district is served by the water carriage system. A scheme was prepared during 1939, for the laying of a sewer at Princetown and Rhymney Bridge (50 houses) and for the conversion of the privies and pail closets to water-closets, but owing to the outbreak of war, an enquiry arranged by the Ministry had to be abandoned. It is hoped that it will be possible to proceed with this scheme at an early date.

PUBLIC LAVATORIES, ETC. The erection of a centrally situated convenience (to serve both sexes) was commenced during 1951, and was opened to the public during May, 1952. The only other provision throughout the district for the public are obsolete urinals. It is hoped to replace these in the near future.

COLLECTION OF HOUSE REFUSE AND STREET CLEANSING. This service is carried out by direct labour, and under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Since 1st April, 1946, the District Council have also been responsible for the cleansing of Trunk, Class 1 and Class 2 Roads, and for the surface water gullies on these roads. Disposal of refuse takes place upon open tips, and collections are made from all premises three times a week.

The salvage scheme terminated at the end of June, 1949.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, SHOPS AND OFFICES. Sanitary conveniences have been provided in all cases where necessary. Attention is also given to Section 10 (1) (b) (Temperature).

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. Five houses (4 private and 1 council) were found to be infested, and the whole premises treated. Premises were also treated for either infestation by fleas, ants, crickets or beetles.

The methods adopted are :

(1) Cimex Patent Block Disinfestators, and then spraying with Insecticide.

(2) Removal of skirting boards, etc., and using blow-lamp.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority. Insecticides are also given (free) to tenants.

The undermentioned insecticides and fumigants are used :

Zaldecide, Pyagra, Cimex, Solution "B," Cooper's Bed Bug Spray, Killgercide, etc.

Twenty-three houses infested with either ants, crickets or beetles, were also treated.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

(124 Intimation Notices or Letters and 79 Statutory Notices were served).

Nuisances Detected or Repairs Required.

	<i>Total</i>
1. Defective and Choked W.C. Drains	24
2. Provide or Rebuild W.C. or Privy Accommodation	8
3. To open and repair slop drains	11
4. To drain, flush, cleanse or repair urinals	2
5. To provide or repair cisterns in W.C.s	4
6. To pave and repair back-yard or forecourt	3
7. Throwing of house refuse, etc. Circular letters distributed	
8. To cleanse cesspools	1
9. To cleanse dwelling-houses and bedding	1
10. To provide and repair rainwater troughing and downspouts	21
11. To repair drain vent or soil pipes	—
12. To limewash pig or chicken cot (or remove).....	1
13. To prevent overcrowding	—
14. To prevent pollution of streams or rivers	1
15. To repair defective house roofs causing dampness	32
16. To provide sinks in houses	—
17. To provide or repair coal buildings	2
18. To cleanse water courses	1
19. To repair W.C. walls, roofs, doors and floors	14
20. To provide new W.C. pans	4
21. To provide new oven	2
22. To repair privies or provide new pails	—
23. To provide or repair pantries	5
24. To repair fireplaces	8
25. To repair or take down dangerous chimney stacks and rebuild	5
26. To replaster walls	15
27. To rebuild boundary or retaining walls	6
28. To repair house floors	9
29. To repair broken ceilings	22
30. To provide slop drains	—
31. Defective condition of main walls	20
32. Defective condition of house doors or windows	43
33. Other nuisances	25

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—Rats and Mice.

The methods used, and which have proved to be most successful, are those advocated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who make a grant to the Council of 50 per cent. of the cost of a large part of the work. The whole sewerage system of the district was treated twice during the year. New sewers laid to serve new houses were found to be free from rats. Treatments were also carried out at dwelling-houses, business premises, refuse tips and river banks, etc.

The work is carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector who is helped by a Rodent Operator, and for sewer treatments three temporary men are engaged every six months.

Co-operation and advice given by Mr. R. Davies, Divisional Rodent Officer, and also by the Divisional Rodent Inspector, is appreciated.

HOUSING

Although sanitary legislation and regulations have been in operation for over a century, environmental conditions are still the cause of much illness. Bad housing; dampness; inadequate lighting and ventilation; overcrowding and unsuitable receptacles for refuse disposal are all contributory factors. The greatest need in Rhymney at the present time is for more housing accommodation, and for the systematic removal of unsatisfactory housing accommodation. There are a large number of low standard houses in the district and the only satisfactory way of dealing with them is by complete demolition. During 1951 a large amount of repair work was again carried out, but as stated in the last report, the remedying of minor defects only touches the fringe of the problem, as these aged and worn out houses are without modern facilities and conveniences. All dwellings, whether old or new, should comply with certain minimum standards, such as, adequate sleeping accommodation and ventilation, sufficient light and fresh air; free from dampness; proper water supply within the house; adequate sanitation; proper food store; suitably equipped for washing, heating, cooking, storage, etc : and with ample space around the house.

POST WAR NEW HOUSING.

<i>Year</i>			
1947	.....	.....	50 Aluminium Bungalows tenanted.
1948	.....	.....	52 Steel Houses tenanted.
1949	.....	.....	30 Tradition Type Houses tenanted.
1950	.....	.....	45 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.
1951	.....	.....	5 Traditional Type Houses tenanted.

A start was made during 1951 to build 40 traditional type houses upon the “ Ty Coch Site ” but unfortunately the progress made to time of writing this report (January 1952) has been very slow. The Council have received (January 1952) tenders for the erection of a further 40 traditional type houses upon this site. Plans for the erection of approximately 44 houses—at Abertysswg—are in course of preparation.

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES OCCUPIED AND OWNED
BY THE COUNCIL AT END OF 1951 273

NO HOUSES WERE ERECTED DURING THE YEAR BY
PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTION ACTS, 1920 - 1939. There were no applications for certificates during the year.

PROSECUTIONS INSTITUTED DURING THE YEAR :

Nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

MILK. There are nine retail distributors of milk in the area, and with the exception of one local producer-distributor, they all receive their supplies of pasteurised or T.T. pasteurised milk in sealed bottles for delivery to consumers. Empty bottles are returned to the wholesale suppliers factories for washing and sterilization, etc. This method does away with the operation of bottle-washing, storing, filling and sealing in numerous small buildings, where satisfactory hygiene would be difficult to attain, and in some cases impossible. During the year, 96 samples were submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory. During a warm period, five samples failed to pass the methylene blue test. The matter was taken up with the wholesale supplier concerned, and also with the Public Health Department of the County Borough where the pasteurisation plants, etc., were situated.

MEAT CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR. 11 lbs pork; 7 lbs liver.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS KILLED by farmers, cottagers, etc., during the year : Pigs, 25. All were free from tuberculosis.

The two slaughterhouses were only used occasionally during the year, in order to kill pigs kept by cottagers, etc. Since the outbreak of Great War No. 2, livestock are killed at Government slaughterhouses. The meat for this area, is supplied from Tredegar Slaughterhouse.

PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924. These Regulations have been carried out in a satisfactory manner on the whole.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947 AND SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. There are thirteen retailers in the area, and six of these are retailer-producers. One of them is also a wholesaler. All are anxious to comply with the Regulations, and quite a lot of work has been done to premises and in the procuring of equipment, etc.

Sixty-three samples were submitted for examination during the year, and 34 were graded 1; 20 graded 2; 5 graded 3 and 4 graded 4.

SHOPS, STORES. There has been no cause for complaint as to the protection of meat from contamination. All butcher shops have refrigerators. The importance of personal cleanliness, also the cleanliness of premises, equipment and utensils, was impressed upon food-handlers and leaflets issued.

Some notices were issued, requesting proper wash-hand basins, together with instantaneous supply of hot water, etc.

FISH FRYING AND CHIP POTATO SHOPS, ETC. Visits were made and attention given to all appliances used in connection with this trade, respecting cleanliness, etc.

BAKEHOUSES. Limewashing and general cleanliness receives attention.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED. 10 lbs. cheese; 31 boxes processed cheese; 18 lbs. butter; 36 packets dates; 112 lbs nuts; 10 lbs. chocolate; 80 lbs. sugar; 35 tins fruit; 54 tins meat; 115 tins vegetables; 170 tins soup; 3 tins milk; 29 tins fish; 39 jars pickles; 73 jars jam.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

(a) Total number of outbreaks	.....	.....	.....	None
(b) Number of cases	.....	.....	.....	None
(c) Number of deaths	.....	.....	.....	None
(d) Organisms or other agents responsible, with number of outbreaks attributable to each.....				None
(e) Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food	.....	.....	.....	None

By-laws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Council upon two occasions have adopted these by-laws, and the Ministry of Food informed accordingly, but confirmation, etc. is still awaited.

**PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONS
AND OTHER DISEASES.**

- 1951—206 Cases (Whooping Cough, 100; Measles, 94; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1; Tuberculosis, 9; Scarlet Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 1).
- 1950—99 Cases (Erysipelas, 1; Scarlet Fever, 53; Measles, 28; Tuberculosis, 14; Diphtheria, 2; Acute Poliomyelitis, 1).
- 1949—183 Cases (Scarlet Fever, 3; Measles, 130; Tuberculosis, 23; Whooping Cough, 1; Puerperal Pyrexia, 1; Dysentery, 25).
- 1948—149 Cases (Scarlet Fever, 35; Measles, 87; Tuberculosis, 17; Diphtheria, 2; Acute Primary Pneumonia, 1; Whooping Cough, 7).

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD.

Upper Ward	...	.....	.....	104 cases.
Middle Ward	.....	....	.....	43 cases.
Lower Ward	.....	.	....	52 cases.
Abertysswg Ward	.....	.....	...	7 cases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

During the Year 1951.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	1	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	Nil	Nil
Acute Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other diseases generally notifiable (specify disease)			
Cerebro Spinal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	1	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	100	Nil	Nil
Measles	94	Nil	Nil
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify disease)	Nil	Nil	Nil

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases						
Notified	Treated At Home	In Hos- pital	Vision Un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
1	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No

The Sanitary Inspector visits each house and instructs how to carry out isolation there; in many cases from the number of occupants and the type of house this is difficult or impossible.

Small Pox—No case. Erysipelas—One case (1 case in 1950).

TUBERCULOSIS

Deaths from Tuberculosis of the respiratory system, 1; death rate per 1,000 living, 0.11; deaths from other forms of Tubercular Diseases, Nil; death rate per 1,000 living, Nil; death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis, 0.11. Last year the death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 0.55; from other Tubercular Diseases, Nil; and from all forms of Tuberculosis, 0.55.

New Cases and Mortality during 1951.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the notified cases and of the deaths :—

Age Periods	NEW CASES—9				DEATHS—1			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	9		0		1		0	
	5 M.	4 F.	1 M.	0 F.	1 M.	0 F.	0 M.	0 F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	4	0	0	1	—	—	—

There was 1 death from Respiratory Tuberculosis (associated with Silicosis), and no deaths from the non-pulmonary type. A notification had not been received in respect of the death from tuberculosis, but cause of death after post-mortem was certified as silico-tuberculosis.

Patients from the district are admitted to the following Institutions :

1. Glan Ely Hospital, near Cardiff.
2. North Wales Sanatorium, Denbigh.
3. Cefn Mabley Hospital, near Cardiff.
4. Mardy Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.
5. Gellygaer Hospital.
6. South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth.
7. Energlyn Hospital, Caerphilly.
8. Annexe, Chepstow.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was necessary under these Regulations, which are framed with the view of preventing persons suffering from Tuberculosis occupying themselves in the milk trade.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

Section 172. This Section which enforces the compulsory removal of a patient suffering from tuberculosis and in an infectious state to hospital when there is no proper accommodation at the house, was not made use of.

Tuberculosis. 9 new cases (all pulmonary) were notified during the year 1951.

As stated earlier in this report, the family doctor sends patients to Chest Specialists in attendance at the Chest Clinics, for opinion, investigation or treatment. When considered necessary, the Chest Physician also recommends admission to Sanatoria or Hospital. For details of Monmouthshire County Council arrangements, etc., please see County Medical Officer's Annual report.

During May, 1950, the Mass Radiography Service visited Rhymney, and was available to the general population. Arrangements for a return visit were made for week commencing 30th June, 1952.

Diphtheria. The need of immunisation was advertised by the Monmouthshire County Council.

No case was notified during the year.

Scabies. There are no facilities for in-patients treatments of cases detected in your district.

Enteric Fever. No case.

Pneumonia (acute-influenzal and acute primary). No case notified.

There were three deaths from Bronch-Pneumonia.

Encephalitis Lethargica. No case notified.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. One case notified and recovered satisfactorily.

Dysentery. No case notified.

Influenza. No deaths.

Bronchitis. Eleven deaths.

There is no steam disinfectors in the district, and no facilities for dealing with verminous persons and their belongings. It is hoped that it will be possible in the near future for these services to be provided.

In conclusion, we again wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the interest shown and support given in Public Health, etc., matters, and to express our appreciation to the Council Staff for their co-operation throughout the year.

We remain, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Yours faithfully,

I. L. R. EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health.

G. R. DAVIES,

Sanitary Inspector, etc.



